

Remarks

The Examiner's Office action mailed November 1, 2007, which restricted pending claims 1-140, has been reviewed. In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner restricted the claims to the following Groups: Group I (claims 1-102 and 107-134); Group II (claims 103-106 and 135); and Group III (claims 136-140). Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-102 and 107-134) for prosecution, with traverse.

Applicants note that this application has already been under substantive examination. An office action was issued July 19, 2006, which rejected pending claims 1-140. Applicants filed a response to that Office action on January 19, 2007. A new Examiner was assigned to the application and issued a Restriction Requirement on June 14, 2007. The Examiner issued a second Restriction Requirement on November 1, 2007. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement for the reasons specified in the Response to Restriction Requirement dated August 13, 2007. Applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-102 and 107-134) for prosecution.

Based on the foregoing, it is submitted that the Applicants' invention as defined by the claims is patentable over the references of record. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants' attorney welcomes the opportunity to discuss the case with the Examiner in the event that there are any questions or comments regarding the response or the application.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Examiner's Office action mailed on November 1, 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,

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